

North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police Foundation
Disaster Assistance Response Team
By Sharron Riley, Director

With warm weather and the 2008 hurricane season approaching, it is time for the NC Fraternal Order of Police Foundation Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to begin preparing for the possibility of a response to a disaster. Thankfully, the 2006 and 2007 hurricane seasons were quiet for North Carolina and there was not a need to activate DART.

At the April 2005 State Board meeting, the trustees approved a new benefit for NC FOP members. June 1, 2006, marked the official beginning of the North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police Foundation Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART). When disaster strikes, law enforcement officers must continue to perform their sworn duty to protect and serve their communities by providing for public safety. Law enforcement officers often must respond immediately to handle these emergency situations and are unable to care for their own families and homes. DART was created to provide assistance to these dedicated servants.

Your disaster assistance response team is in need of volunteers. Volunteers will provide home stabilization assistance such as placing tarps on damaged roofs, boarding damaged windows, removing fallen trees from drive-ways and removing furniture from flooded homes. DART volunteers may also provide assistance to officers' families by running emergency errands, helping with disaster assistance paperwork and encouraging the use of support organizations. If you are interested in volunteering for DART or would like more information about DART, please contact me at 704-654-1115 or Sharron@fop.net.

Over the past two years, DART received generous monetary and equipment donations from the state lodge, FOP members and several NC FOP lodges. In addition, Husqvarna donated chain saw equipment and training to the DART chain saw team and Irwin Tools contributed assorted tools for the trailer.

Because DART is a part of the NC FOP Foundation, contributions to DART are tax deductible. At this time, monetary support is needed to fund responses and training exercises. If you would like to contribute to DART please send your tax deductible donation to:

NC FOP Foundation
P.O. Box 235
Stanfield, NC 28163

Please indicate on the check the contribution is for "DART".

NC FOP DART Committee

Director

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